

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1644

To further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, and for
other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 7, 2001

Mr. CAMPBELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and
referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To further the protection and recognition of veterans'
memorials, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Memorial
5 Preservation and Recognition Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. VETERANS’ MEMORIAL RESTORATION FUND.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Part VI of title 38, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing new chapter:

1 **“CHAPTER 87—MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

“Sec.

“8701. Veterans’ Memorial Restoration Fund.

2 **“§ 8701. Veterans’ Memorial Restoration Fund**

3 “(a) There is established on the books of the Treas-
4 ury a fund to be known as the ‘Veterans’ Memorial Res-
5 toration Fund’ (in this section referred to as the ‘Fund’).

6 “(b) There shall be deposited in the Fund amounts
7 as follows:

8 “(1) Amounts authorized to be appropriated to
9 the Fund.

10 “(2) Amounts collected as civil penalties under
11 section 1369(b) of title 18.

12 “(3) Amounts donated to the United States for
13 purposes of deposit in the Fund.

14 “(4) Any other amounts transferred to the
15 Fund by the Secretary under law.

16 “(c) Amounts in the Fund shall be available to the
17 Secretary as follows:

18 “(1) To cover the costs of the repair or restora-
19 tion of injuries or depredations to veterans’ memo-
20 rials.

21 “(2) To cover any other costs associated with
22 the repair, restoration, maintenance, or upkeep of
23 veterans’ memorials.

1 “(d) Amounts in the Fund shall be in addition to any
 2 other amounts available to the Secretary for purposes of
 3 the repair, restoration, maintenance, or upkeep of vet-
 4 erans’ memorials.

5 “(e) In this section, the term ‘veterans’ memorial’
 6 means any structure, plaque, statue, or other monument
 7 on public property commemorating the service of any per-
 8 son or persons in the Armed Forces.”.

9 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The tables of chap-
 10 ters at the beginning of title 38, United States Code, and
 11 at the beginning of part VI of that title, are each amended
 12 by adding at the end the following new item:

“87. Miscellaneous Matters 8701”.

13 **SEC. 3. CRIMINAL AND CIVIL PENALTIES FOR DESECRE-**
 14 **TION OF VETERANS’ MEMORIALS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
 16 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 17 lowing:

18 **“§ 1369. Desecration of veterans’ memorials**

19 “(a) Whoever, in a circumstance described in sub-
 20 section (c), willfully injures or commits any depredation
 21 against any structure, plaque, statue, or other monument
 22 on public property commemorating the service of any per-
 23 son or persons in the armed forces of the United States,
 24 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than
 25 10 years, or both, but if the damage or attempted damage

1 does not exceed the sum of \$1,000, the defendant shall
 2 be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than one
 3 year, or both.

4 “(b)(1) Whoever commits an offense described by
 5 subsection (a) shall be subject to a civil penalty in an
 6 amount equal to the cost of repairing the injury or depre-
 7 dation upon which the offense is based.

8 “(2) A civil penalty for an offense under this sub-
 9 section is in addition to any fine or penalty for the offense
 10 under subsection (a) or any other provision of law.

11 “(3) Amounts collected under this subsection shall be
 12 deposited in the Veterans’ Memorial Restoration Fund
 13 under section 8701 of title 38, and available for use in
 14 accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of that
 15 section.

16 “(c) The circumstance referred to in subsection (a)
 17 is that in committing the offense, the defendant travels
 18 or causes another to travel in interstate or foreign com-
 19 merce, or uses the mail or an instrumentality of interstate
 20 or foreign commerce.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 22 at the beginning of chapter 65 of title 18, United States
 23 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1369. Desecration of veterans’ memorials.”.

1 **SEC. 4. HIGHWAY SIGNS RELATING TO VETERANS CEME-**
2 **TERIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the terms of any
4 agreement entered into by the Secretary of Transportation
5 and a State under section 109(d) or 402(a) of title 23,
6 United States Code, a veterans cemetery shall be treated
7 as a site for which a supplemental guide sign may be
8 placed on any Federal-aid highway.

9 (b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall apply to an
10 agreement entered into before, on, or after the date of the
11 enactment of this Act.

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